

CLAIMS

1. A trailer for transporting a container, said container being provided with lifting holes at least at each corner thereof; said trailer comprising:

a generally U-shaped frame, the front thereof being provided with means for removably attaching said trailer to a tractor, said generally U-shaped frame being shaped and sized to receive said container within said frame, said frame being provided with wheels on each side of said frame;

a plurality of retractable lifting members, each retractable lifting member being positioned proximate a lifting hole of said container when said container is received within said frame, said retractable lifting members being movable between an inoperative position where said lifting members are disengaged from said lifting holes, and an operative position where said lifting members engage said lifting holes and are extendable to lift said container; and means for controlling said plurality of lifting members.

2. A trailer according to claim 1, wherein each of said lifting members are housed in a substantially vertical beam fastened to said frame, and wherein front beams are interconnected at a top portion thereof with a top cross member, and wherein rear beams are interconnected at a top portion thereof with another top cross member.

3. A trailer according to claim 2, wherein said lifting members consist of a hydraulic cylinder provided with a lifting hook, said lifting hook being inwardly biased, and wherein said beam includes a vertical slot having a predetermined length, whereby when the lifting members are in said inoperative position, said hydraulic cylinders are retracted and said lifting hooks are located within said beam below a bottom end of said slot, and wherein when said cylinders are extended, said hook deploys outside of said slot until contact with said lifting hole of said container, and wherein said lifting hook engages said lifting hole and lifts

said container until a top portion of said container contacts a bottom portion of each of said top cross member.

- 5 4. A trailer according to claim 1, wherein said trailer is further provided with a rear gate.